

**Modernisation of Thoothukudi airport**

978. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has started the work relating to modernisation and expansion of Thoothukudi airport (Tamil Nadu) after the handing over of required land parcel to Government by District Administration;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Government of Tamil Nadu has handed over 600.97 acres of land to Airports Authority of India (AAI) for development of Thoothukudi (Tuticorin) Airport. AAI has awarded the work of Airport expansion including runway extension with Blast pad, Runway End Safety Area (RESA), Taxiway, Apron, Ground Support Equipment area, Isolation bay and associated works on 22.08.2019.

- (c) Does not arise in view of the above.

**Safety audit**

979. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether DGCA directed IndiGo to replace Pratt and Whitney (PW) engines of A320 neoplanes in view of frequent snags occurring in the engines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) how many engines are at present used for flying in IndiGo and how many aircraft would be affected;
- (d) whether such malfunctions were found in any other airlines operating in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether any special safety audit done for the safety of passengers; and
- (g) the details of steps taken for the safety and airworthiness of aircraft operating in the country?